Benefits extended to accredited correspondents by Departments/Agencies

2557. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) What benefits are extended to the accredited correspondents by different departments and agencies; the details thereof; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to prune, confine or increase the benefits?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Facilities as given in the statement enclosed are normally provided to the accredited correspondents (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

Statement

Following facilities are normally provided to accredited correspondents:—

1. Publicity materials are supplied to them through special messenger or by Post.
2. They are informed in advance through invitations for National/International conferences and other important events/briefings etc.
3. In Press Information Bureau, there is a fully air-conditioned press lounge for the use of accredited journalists where facilities like newspapers/magazines, workroom with typewriters, a local telephone etc. are available.
4. The application for allotment of telephone connection on priority are forwarded to the concerned Department by Press Information Bureau.
5. Press Information Bureau issues certificates to the accredited correspondents for grant of Railway concession coupons for professional visits on a written request giving details of the journey. Accredited journalists are given 50% concession in Sleeper Class/II Class and 25% in 1st Class Train Fare.
6. Press Information Bureau issues authority letters to Customs authorities for the duty free import of professional equipments such as personal computer including laptop computers, typewriters, fax machines and camera equipment, by accredited correspondents and cameramen upto c.i.f. value of Rs. 1.00 lakh once in every five years from July, 1996.
7. Accredited correspondents can become members of the Central Secretariat Library.
8. Accredited journalists are allotted Government Accommodation from Press Pool on seniority basis on the recommendation of the Screening Committee.

गुवाहाटी में आकाशवाणी/दूरदर्शन के स्टाफ क्वार्टरों का निर्माण

2558. **श्री शिव चरण सिंह:** क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुवाहाटी में आकाशवाणी/दूरदर्शन के स्टाफ क्वार्टरों के निर्माण कार्य में अब तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है;

(ख) यह निर्माण कार्य कब तक पूरा हो जाने की सम्भावना है;

(ग) क्या इस संबंध में गुवाहाटी के आकाशवाणी/दूरदर्शन कर्मचारियों से कोई अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

नागर विमानन मंत्री तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री सी०एम० इब्राहीम): (क) से (घ) स्टॉफ क्वार्टर बनाने के लिए आकाशवाणी, दूरदर्शन स्टॉफ सहित, विभिन्न स्रोतों से समय-समय पर अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त होते रहे हैं और इनकी पारस्परिक प्राथमिकताओं को ध्यान में रखकर गुण-अवगुण आधार पर कार्यान्वित किया जाता है बशर्ते अपेक्षित आधारभूत सुविधाएं, वित्तीय संसाधन उपलब्ध हों। 109 स्टॉफ क्वार्टर आकाशवाणी, गुवाहाटी में उपलब्ध हैं। चार अतिरिक्त